

FIRST ROUND OF SINGLES QUALIFYING AT PALMETTO PRO OPEN IN THE BOOKS Field of 64 cut to 32 for final 8 Main Draw Spots

SUMTER, SC (June 14) – In the last tournament **Jamie Loeb (USA)** played, she was crowned a national champion. In the last tournament she played at the award-winning Palmetto Tennis Center in Sumter, SC, she was crowned as a USTA Women's Pro Circuit champion.

In Sunday's first round of Singles Qualifying at the Palmetto Pro Open, the University of North Carolina standout made her first move towards another title with a 6-1, 6-3 win over **Mariana Gould (USA)** in the \$25,000 USTA Women's Pro Circuit event.

Thirty-one other players joined Loeb in the second round and are two wins away from earning a spot in the Singles Main Draw.

Top-seeded qualifier Ingrid Neel (USA) took down Chloe Michele Ouellet-Pizer (USA) 6-3, 6-3, while No. 9 seed Michaela Gordon (USA) defeated 2014 PPO doubles champion Sophie Chang (USA) 6-3, 6-4. Second-seeded Jacqueline Cako (USA) fell to Kourtney J. Keegan (USA) 6-3, 6-1 and Ellen Perez (AUS) found herself in the second round with a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Claudia Wiktorin (USA).

No. 3 seed **Usue Maitane Arconada (USA)** defeated University of South Carolina's **Megen Cochran (USA)** 6-0, 6-3, while **Alexa Bortles (USA)** was a 6-2, 6-4 winner over **Kennedy Wicker (USA)**. Fifth-seeded **Jennifer Elie (USA)** took on **Brooke Broda (USA)** and won 6-2, 7-5, while No. 13 **Kylie McKenzie (USA)** defeated **Ty Ana Williams (USA)** 6-0, 6-1.

Yolande Leacock (TTO) was a 6-1, 6-0 winner over Gail Falkenberg (USA) and Alexandra Sanford (USA) made her way into the second round with a 3-6, 7-6(4), 7-5 victory over Sarah Dvorak (USA). University of South Carolina's Hadley Berg (USA) was eliminated by Frances Altick (USA) 6-4, 6-0.

No. 15 seed Maria Shishkina (USA) prevailed over Abigail Desiatnikov (USA) 7-5, 4-0, ret. and fourth-seeded Carla Lucero (ARG) was upset by Jessica Golovin (USA) 4-6, 6-4, 6-3. Also making her way into the second round was Elyse Lavender (USA), who was a 6-2, 6-4 winner over Idia Amen (USA).

In one of two matches that didn't feature an American, **Germany's Vivian Wolff** defeated **No. 12 seed and Brazil's Flavia Guimaraes Beuno** 6-1, 6-3. No. 11 seed **Brynn Boren (USA)** lost to **Julia Jones (USA)** 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 while No. 16 seed and 2014 PPO doubles champion **Andie K. Daniell (USA)** defeated **Cassie Mercer (USA)** 6-2, 6-3.

Mary Closs (USA) made it into the second round with a 6-0, 6-1 victory over Marcela-Guimaraes Bueno (BRA) and was joined there by Shannon Cox (RSA), a 1-6, 6-2, 6-1 winner over Jocelyn Friend (USA). Brigit Folland (GBR) defeated Stephanie J. Smith (USA) 7-6(4), 6-4.

Tai Martin (USA) took down **Emily J. Harman (USA)** 7-5, 6-1 to move into the second round, as did **Lynn Kiro (RSA)**, who was a 6-7(2), 6-1, 6-3 winner over **Kelley Anderson (USA)**. **Kristina Mathis (USA)** took a 6-2, 6-2 victory over **Sarah Vargas (USA)**.

No. 7 seed Maria-Fernanda Alves (BRA) took on Amanda Rodgers (USA) and won 6-2, 6-3, while tenth-seeded and 2014 PPO semifinalist Petra Januskova (CAN) defeated Mercedes Hammond (USA) 1-6, 6-1, 6-4. In the other match that didn't feature an American, No. 14 seed Marie-Alexandre Leduc (CAN) tangled with Madaline Man (ROU) and won 6-0, 6-0.

Also making their way into the second round were **Caroline Brinson (USA)** and No. 6 seed **Mari Osaka (JPN).** Brinson was a 7-5, 4-6, 6-1 winner over **Hsiang-Wen Huang (TPE)** and Osaka defeated **Salma Ewing (USA)** 6-2, 6-4.

Rounding out the second round of qualifying are Victoria Flores (USA), Kayla Day (USA) and Cameron Morra (USA). Flores defeated Iesha Holton (USA) 6-3, 7-5, while Day took down Shauna Williams (USA) 6-0, 6-1 and Morra was a 6-0, 6-3 winner over Katherine White (GBR).

The second round of qualifying will begin on Monday at the PTC at 9 a.m.

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